

# ***HORSE & PONY***

## ***Activity Sheet - 2025***

### ***Level 1 - Grades 3-4-5***



**Allen County 4-H Skills  
for Life**

#### **What you will do in this project:**

- Enroll in the 4-H program by January 15.
- Complete this project by answering 2 complete activities in this activity sheet and turning it in to the Extension Office **by June 15** or earlier.
- You do not have to have a horse to participate in a 4-H Horse and Pony Club.
- By May 15 complete and submit the 4Honline Horse ID with color pictures of the animals you intend to show. A maximum of 2 pictures per animal may be uploaded. The pictures must contain the face and all four(4) feet of the animal in the picture. Files must be a jpg, jpeg or png file.
- To enter into the Indiana State Fair, please go to [www.indianastatefair.com](http://www.indianastatefair.com) and enter online. Each exhibitor is required to pay an entry fee at the time of entry. June 1, 2025 is the entry deadline. Late fees apply for entries made after June 1, 2025.
- Attend County 4-H workshops, meetings, and clean up days when offered—at least 2 horse club meetings and 2 riding (outdoor) meetings.
- To exhibit an educational poster, you must bring your completed poster for judging to the 4-H Exhibit Building on the designated day prior to the start of the County Fair.
- Refer to the Allen County 4-H Rules Book for a complete listing of all regulations concerning this project.
- Complete FairEntry online by published deadline-May 15.

#### **Management Tips:**

- Provide clean, fresh water to horses and ponies at all times. Horses will drink anywhere from 10-12 gallons of water per day. Ponies will drink a little less.
- Feed horses and ponies at least two times a day and at the same time every day.
- Make sure your horse/pony finishes their feed. Watch to see that animals on turnout are not being chased away from their food by other bossy horses or ponies.
- Check daily for injuries, sickness, unusual things or changes in behavior. You should spend enough time with them that you know when they are a little "off".
- Provide shade from the sun and protection from wind, snow and rain.
- De-worm and remove bots as needed. Treating horses and ponies for external parasites is important for their health and appearance.
- Clean and replace bedding often if horses or ponies are stalled.
- Rinse horses and ponies after you get them sweaty or when they get really dirty. Clean and conditioned hair and skin makes them feel and look better.
- Brush your horses and ponies to calm them and clean and train their hair. This is also a good time to bond with your equine friend.
- Exercise stalled horses or ponies daily; or make sure they have turnout time.
- To finalize preparation for showing, train your horse or pony at least three times a week. Remember, every time you are with them you are training.

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in School (January 1, 2025) \_\_\_\_\_ Years in this project \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of 4-H Member verifying that you have completed these activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent that you have reviewed this information: \_\_\_\_\_

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#### 4-H Animal Care:

The Indiana 4-H program strongly supports positive animal care and strongly opposes animal abuse. 4-H is also dedicated to the mission of developing youth and volunteers through "Learning by Doing" programs.

4-H livestock projects teach life skills such as acquiring knowledge, making decisions, and applying leadership skills.

When working and caring for animals, it is important to insure that appropriate safety measures are in place for both the animals and the persons who care for them. Therefore, there is no substitute for knowledge, common sense, and experience.

Animal handlers should study and learn to anticipate an animal's reaction and try and avoid problem situations. It is most important that 4-H members understand an animal's behavior so one can "outsmart" not "out-muscle" an animal. Foremost in the 4-H'er mind should always be safety of the handler and the animal

An animal's good health is often directly related to the environmental factors associated with its living space. The presence of predators, dust, odors, pests, temperature, and humidity has a direct effect on an animal's well-being.

Animals react favorably to daily care and comfortable housing. Consideration should also be given to specific animal needs such as size of their housing space, lighting, and ventilation. The best facilities and equipment cannot and should not be a substitute for daily observation and careful attention to signs of illness, injury, and/or unusual behavior.

## Level 1 Activity 1

Will Will Not Orange 7 Right Red Left 2

- 1) When I am lining up in the arena, I \_\_\_\_\_ stand really close to the horse next to me.
- 2) If my horse kicks, I should tie a \_\_\_\_\_ ribbon to his/her tail.
- 3) I should walk on the \_\_\_\_\_ side of my horse when leading him/her around.
- 4) I should leave \_\_\_\_\_ horse lengths between the person in front on me and my horse.

## Level 1 Activity 2 - Equine Color Wheel

Find the word in the word search.

BLACK  
BROWN  
BAY  
CHESTNUT  
WHITE  
GRAY  
ROAN  
BUCKSKIN  
GRULLA  
PALOMINO  
TOBIANO  
CREMELLO  
DAPPLE  
OVERO  
FLAXEN

P	Q	Q	N	A	Y	P	Z	G	R	A	Y	N	Q	N
E	Y	N	C	G	K	U	L	E	R	Q	O	E	Z	L
C	Y	P	R	G	B	D	S	W	I	U	B	X	X	E
T	H	A	S	T	D	J	Y	U	H	J	L	A	H	E
O	L	L	E	M	E	R	C	U	N	I	F	L	J	L
E	Y	E	Z	C	K	J	O	A	V	X	T	F	A	P
V	R	E	P	A	L	O	M	I	N	O	R	E	H	P
W	N	V	V	Y	K	H	E	I	K	X	P	X	O	A
V	W	S	F	T	J	M	K	C	S	D	J	V	X	D
I	O	T	S	B	V	S	A	P	U	L	E	U	L	J
N	R	I	M	W	K	L	J	S	F	R	B	Y	S	Z
F	B	V	Z	C	B	N	F	G	O	N	A	O	R	P
P	C	C	U	G	D	X	Q	Y	B	B	H	G	A	T
M	U	B	H	F	L	L	C	H	E	S	T	N	U	T
T	O	B	I	A	N	O	N	B	P	I	J	G	Y	H

# Level 1 Activity 3 – Health & Nutrition

Horses want to know:

When Do We Eat?!!

**Nutrition** is what our horses and ponies need to eat to stay healthy and strong.

What Should Horses and Ponies Eat?

1) **Roughage/Forage**. Example: grass, hay, beet pulp.



Any food that is eaten has to work its way through about **100 feet of intestines**. The **fiber** acts like a toothbrush for the inside of the intestine; it ferments and cleans, keeping things moving through the body.

2) **Concentrates**

Example: corn, oats, wheat.



Concentrates are mixed with other ingredients. All together, they match the **fat**, **carbohydrate**, and **protein** needs of different animals.

**Fats** produce over 2x the energy of carbohydrates, but lots of fat is hard for horses to digest.

**Carbohydrates** are broken down into glucose and absorbed in the small intestine. They provide lots of energy.

**Proteins** are the building blocks for muscles, blood, and other tissues. They combine to keep the body working smoothly.

3) **Supplements/Vitamins/Minerals**. Example: rice bran, flax, copper, selenium. Supplements are different for each individual; they add something extra to the balanced diet to help meet that animal's extra needs.

4) **Water**. The average 1000 pound horse drinks **10-12 gallons** of water every day. They need more when it's hot, less when it's cold. 10 gallons of water is about 38 liters—picture **19, 2 liter bottles of pop** lined up on a table, that is how much water a horse needs Every Day!



**Exercise:** Ask a parent or your barn manager if you can have the contents label off of the bag of feed that your horse or pony eats. The contents label will have a list of ingredients and their percentages. Record the following information:

Fat: \_\_\_\_\_%

Protein: \_\_\_\_\_%

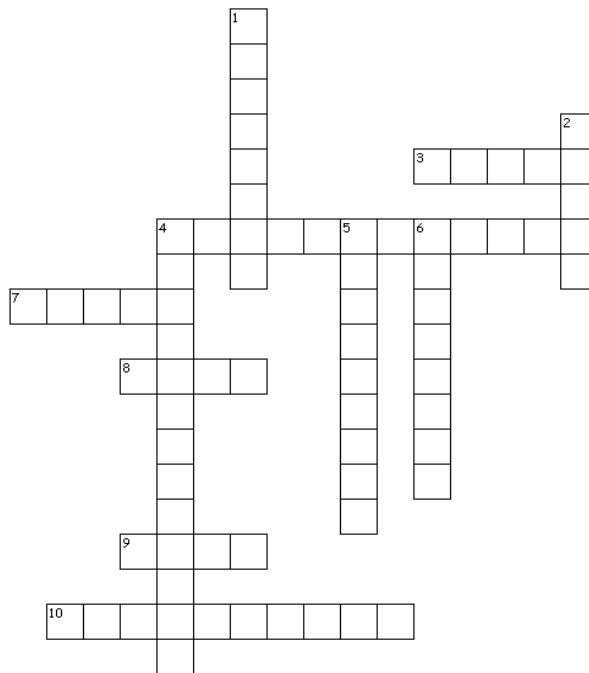
Fiber: \_\_\_\_\_%

Copper: \_\_\_\_\_%

Choose 2 more ingredients and write them here:

\_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_ %

Crossword: Introduction to Nutrition



**Across**

- 3. Acts like a toothbrush in the intestine
- 4. Provides the energy for horses to work
- 7. The average 1000 pound horse consumes 10-12 gallons a day
- 8. An example of a concentrate
- 9. Hard for horses to digest
- 10. These are about 100 feet long

**Down**

- 1. The building blocks of muscles and tissues
- 2. A type of forage
- 4. Change to glucose
- 5. Needed to keep horses and ponies healthy and strong
- 6. A type of supplement

Wait a minute! We forgot one of the things we feed our horses! **TREATS!!**



Write down two kinds of treats that you give to your horse or pony:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Level 1 Activity 3 – Horse Types & Uses

Fill in the blanks.

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ are the three primary breeds used for racing.

\_\_\_\_\_ horses were originally developed for working livestock on ranches and for short distance racing.

The \_\_\_\_\_ horse is best known for its smooth, ground-covering, easy-traveling gaits.

Three common pony breeds are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

What are the four qualities that a good hunter horse should have?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ horse was originally developed for farming and to transport freight across our nation.

### Match the coat colors with the correct description

Bay	Has irregular patches in more than one color
Paint	Most so-called white horses are actually this color.
Gray	This horse is a mixture of red and yellow/brown
Brown	The body color can range from light yellow to bright copper.
Palomino	This color of horse is made up of both brown and black hair and the mane and tail are always dark.

## Level 1 Activity 4 - Horse Breeds



In this activity, get a world map and identify where 15 horse breeds came from. You can cut out pictures of the horse breeds, but be sure to label the breed and the location. Attach your completed activity.

## Level 1 Activity 5 - Horse Safety Rules

Create a poster highlighting horse safety rules.

My poster title is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed On Line 4-H Enrollment by January 15, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed Animal ID on Line by May 15, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed Fair Entry on line by June 4, 2025